

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7734

BILL NUMBER: SB 313

DATE PREPARED: Feb 2, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Feb 1, 2001

SUBJECT: Acupuncture Advisory Committee.

FISCAL ANALYST: Chris Baker

PHONE NUMBER: 232-9851

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill defines "acupuncturist". The bill makes changes to the prerequisites required for an applicant to obtain a license to practice acupuncture and to the conditions that may serve as the basis for disciplinary action against a licensed acupuncturist. It provides that the practice of acupuncture by a chiropractor, dentist, or podiatrist who has a professional's license to practice acupuncture is limited to the scope of practice of the individual's profession. The bill also extends the expiration date of the acupuncture advisory committee to June 30, 2006. It prohibits an acupuncturist, other than certain licensed health professionals, from performing acupuncture on a patient unless the acupuncturist obtains, from a licensed physician, a written letter of referral and either: 1) a written diagnosis of the patient; or 2) written documentation relating to the condition for which the patient receives acupuncture.

Effective Date: June 1, 2001; July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) The Acupuncture Advisory Committee (AAC) is set to expire on June 30, 2001. The bill would extend its existence for five additional fiscal years. The new expiration of the AAC would be June 30, 2006.

Currently, the Health Professions Bureau (HPB) reports that total expenditures of the AAC have been insignificant. Members of the AAC are not entitled to per diem or travel expenses. As the AAC is still in the process of drafting rules, there have been no expenses related to designing and printing applications, wall certificates, or other items. The bill provides for changes to the prerequisite requirements, so the Bureau would experience expenditures involved with the printing of the requirements. Current printing expenses have been covered within HPB's current budget.

The HPB anticipates that significant expenses for the AAC will begin in the near future. In FY 2000, the HPB reclassified one position in order to provide a board director. The Bureau also hired an administrative assistant and a secretary 3 position. Some redistribution of existing staff also occurred to handle the responsibilities of implementing the Committee.

The bill was amended concerning substance abuse violations and conditions under which an acupuncturist could have their license suspended or revoked. Additionally, the bill now requires an acupuncturist, as defined by the bill, to have a written letter of referral and *either* a written diagnosis of the patient, or documentation relating to the condition for which the patient is receiving acupuncture from a licensed physician, in order to practice on the patient. The bill, as amended, requires licensed chiropractors, dentists, and podiatrists also licensed in acupuncture that have restrictions placed against their license to practice as either a chiropractor, dentist, or podiatrist to have the same restrictions placed against their acupuncture license. It is believed these changes would have a minimal fiscal impact.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Health Professions Bureau; Indiana Acupuncture Advisory Committee.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Beth Compton, Executive Director, and Barbara McNutt, Staff Council, Indiana Health Professions Bureau, (317) 233-4406.